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THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN: Conductors are exempted not only from educational qualification but also other qualifications. These rules are not to be applied rigidly but with an amount of elasticity. That is the instruction given. Every Harijan who has applied for a conductor's certificate has been provided with it. I do not think there is any difficulty with regard to this matter.

With regard to the other question which my hon. Friend Sri R. V. Swaminathan wanted to know whether the Government have experienced any difficulty in this matter, we wanted to reorganise the entire transport system in such a manner that it gives satisfaction not only to the operators but also to the general public. If there are difficulties now and then found by the hon. Member, he may bring it to the notice of the Government and it can be rectified. I may tell the hon. Member that no system can be perfect.

SRI S. RAMALINGAM: கனம் ஸ்ரீ ஆர். வி. சுவாமிநாதன் போன்ற அங்கத்தினர்களால் ஏற்படக்கூடிய தொல்லைகள் இம்மாதிரி மாற்றிக் கொண்டிருப்பதற்குக் காரணமா? (சிரிப்பு.)

SRI K. P. GOPALAN: The Hon. Minister has not taken this problem very seriously. If one conductor or one driver does not get his licence renewed, he cannot earn his livelihood. I can quote so many instances in Malabar where bus conductors and drivers did not get their licences renewed. As President of the Malabar Motor Workers' Union I can quote to the Hon. Minister so many examples. Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to see that whenever applications are received for renewal of licences, the matter is expedited so that the workers can earn their livelihood? Otherwise, can I ask the Hon. Minister to take up the responsibility regarding the existence of these drivers and conductors?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN: No complaints have been received from any district. If there are some complaints like this in Malabar, the Advisory Committee to which I was referring just now can help in the matter if they are informed about this. The Collector can then take up the matter and advice the Regional Transport Authority to issue the licences as quickly as possible. Therefore, the hon. Member will now see that there is some useful purpose served by the constitution of this Advisory Committee.

Industrial disputes

* 3414 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any representation from the President of the Salem Modern Theatres Workers' Union in January 1956 regarding the victimisation of certain workers in the said concern; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon?

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The disputes in Modern Theatres, Limited, Salem, on the issue of dismissal of R. Seshachalam and P. Sidhan has been referred to the Industrial Tribunal, Coimbatore, for adjudication.

Government Hospital, Perintalamanna

* 3415 Q.—SRI K. KUNHI MOHAMED SHAFEE : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received a memorandum from the Citizens of Perintalamanna and Mankada firkas of South Malabar through the Hon. the Chief Minister when he visited Perintalamanna on 23rd April 1955 regarding the improvements to the buildings of the Government Hospital, Perintalamanna and the appointment of a lady doctor in the same hospital; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A proposal for certain improvements to the Hospital and for the employment of additional staff was considered by the Government, but was deferred due to financial stringency.

SRI K. KUNHI MOHAMED SHAFEE : Sir, this matter has been brought to the notice of the Government repeatedly for the last so many years. There is a Hospital Advisory Committee there and after its constitution up to now recommendations were made regarding the improvements to the hospital and appointment of a lady doctor. The question was raised in this House by means of interpellations and by the speeches made on the floor of the House as also by cut motions given notice of to the appropriate Demand. In spite of all these things and even through representations made to the Hon. Ministers including the Hon. the Chief Minister, Government now seem to have deferred such an important matter concerning the public of the whole taluk for another period. May I know whether the Hon. Minister will consider sympathetically making provisions for the improvement of the hospital and for the appointment of a lady doctor?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : Government are aware, Sir, of the need for increasing bed-strength and employing additional staff in ever so many hospitals in Malabar as well as in other districts. A provision of Rs. 123 odd lakhs has been made in the Second Five-Year Plan for improvements to Taluk Headquarters Hospitals. The need of this hospital will be duly considered.

SRI O. KORAN : Perintalamanna is a growing headquarters town and there are no Local Fund Dispensaries. Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to add a few more beds to the hospital and sanction additional staff, as the necessity for both is greatly felt?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : There is a proposal for increasing bed-strength and appointing additional staff. Proposals